### Foulkes characters

Alexander R. Miller

Darstellungstheorietage TU Kaiserslautern 29 Oktober 2022



	28033	73919
+	52682	17057

- + 75413 08629
- + 15890 24338

	28033	73919
+	52682	17057
+	75413	08629
1	15200	24338

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	28033 73919
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	28033 73919
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1 21130

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201 21130

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+	15890	24338
-	010	23943
	019	23943

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22201 21130

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28033 73919
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72019 23943

1 22201 21130

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$$M(i,j) = \text{chance}\{\text{next carry } j \mid \text{last carry is } i\}$$

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- $\bullet$  Carries can be 0, 1, 2, 3.
- M is a 4  $\times$  4 matrix.

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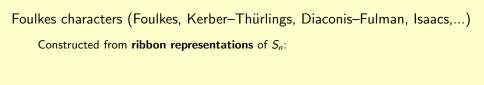
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Diaconis–Fulman recognized Foulkes characters.



Foulkes characters (Foulkes, Kerber–Thürlings, Diaconis–Fulman, Isaacs,...)

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$$\det \Phi = 4!3!2! = 4 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 2^3$$

Reflection  $r \in GL(\mathbf{C}^n)$ :  $\ker(r-1)$  hyp.

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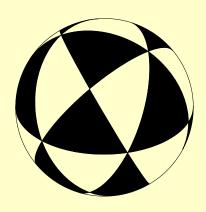
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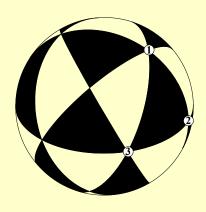
Reflection  $r \in GL(\mathbf{C}^n)$ : ker(r-1) hyp. (Finite) reflection group  $G \leq GL(\mathbf{C}^n)$ 



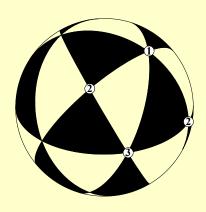
Ribbon representations for reflection groups



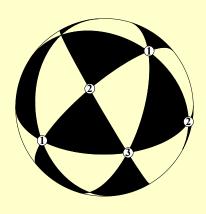
Ribbon representations for reflection groups



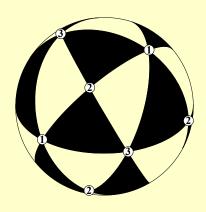
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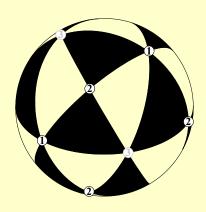
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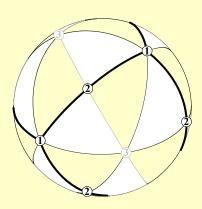


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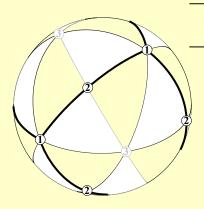


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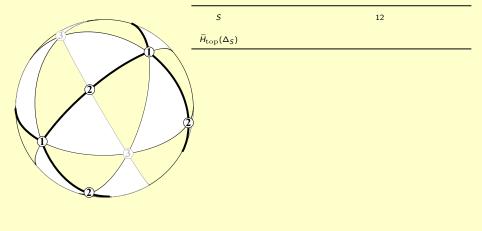


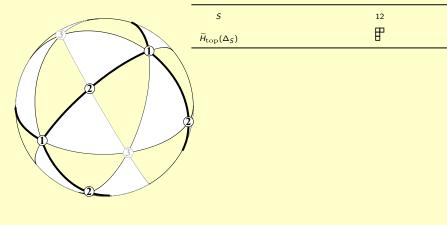


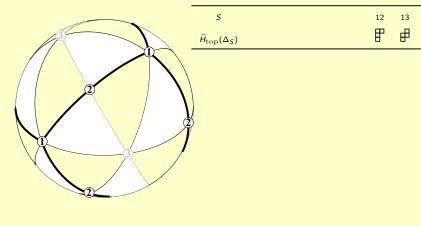
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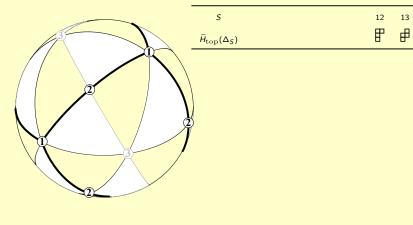


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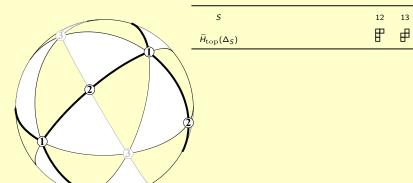


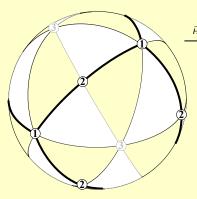


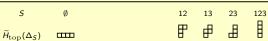


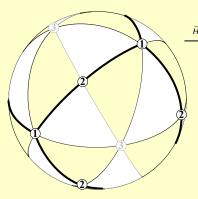


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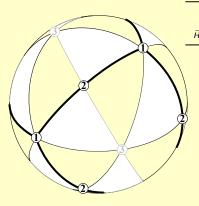


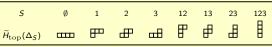






S	Ø		2					
$\widetilde{H}_{\mathrm{top}}(\Delta_S)$	ш	₽	₽	Ш	₽	₽	∄	

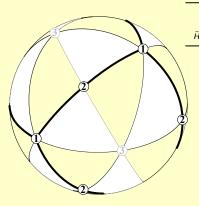




#### **General setup:** Fix G finite

$$\langle r_1, r_2, \ldots, r_N \mid r_i^{p_i} = 1, r_i r_j r_i \ldots = r_j r_i r_j \ldots i \neq j \rangle$$

 $m_{ij} = m_{ji}$ ,  $p_i \ge 2$  and  $p_i = p_j$  if  $m_{ij}$  odd.

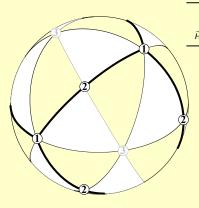


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$$m_{ij} = m_{ji}, p_i \ge 2$$
 and  $p_i = p_j$  if  $m_{ij}$  odd.  
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$$R = \{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_N\}, V = \mathbf{C}^N$$

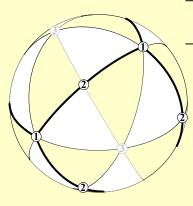


S	Ø	1	_	3				
$\widetilde{H}_{\mathrm{top}}(\Delta_S)$	ш	₽	Ф	ш	置	∄	4	

$$\langle r_1, r_2, \dots, r_N \mid r_i^{p_i} = 1, r_i r_j r_i \dots = r_j r_i r_j \dots i \neq j \rangle$$

$$m_{ij} = m_{ji}, p_i \ge 2 \text{ and } p_i = p_j \text{ if } m_{ij} \text{ odd.}$$
  
•  $R = \{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_N\}, V = \mathbb{C}^N.$ 

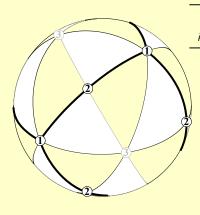
- $\Gamma(G)$ :  $\stackrel{p_i \quad m_{ij} \quad p_j}{\bullet}$   $(m_{ii} > 2)$ .



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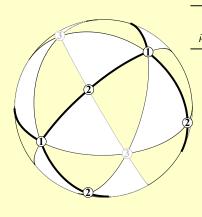
- $\Gamma(G)$ :  $\stackrel{p_i \ m_{ij} \ p_j}{\longleftarrow} (m_{ii} > 2)$ .
- $\bullet \ \Gamma(G) : \bullet \longrightarrow (m_{ij} > 2)$
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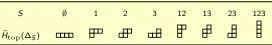


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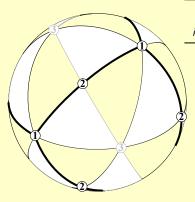


#### **General setup:** Fix G finite

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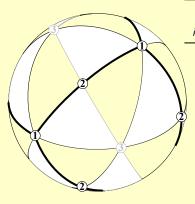
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## Milnor fiber complex $\Delta(G,R)$ (Orlik):



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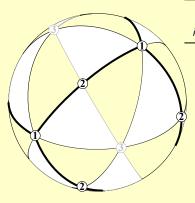
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$$gG_J$$
 face of  $hG_K \Leftrightarrow gG_J \supset hG_K$   $(G_J = \langle J \rangle, \ J \subset R)$ 



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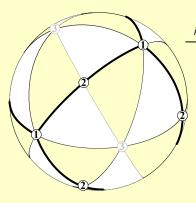
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•  $\operatorname{type}(gG_{R\setminus J})=J$ 



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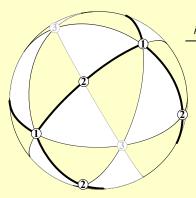
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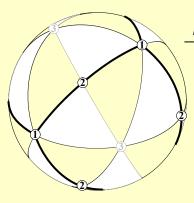
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Ribbon representations (Solomon, M.):



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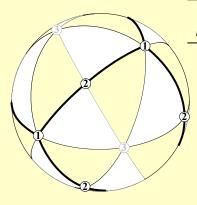
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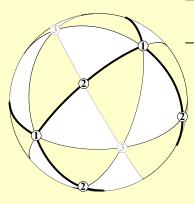
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Generalized Foulkes characters (M.): 
$$\phi_k = \sum_{\substack{S \subset R \\ |S| = k}} \rho_S$$
  $(k = 0, 1, ..., N)$ .

A formula for Foulkes characters

## Theorem (M.)

$$\phi_k(g) = \sum_{i=0}^k (-1)^{k-i} \binom{N-i}{k-i} f_{i-1}(\Delta \cap X),$$

- ullet  $X=V^g$  so that  $\Delta\cap X=\Delta^g=\{\sigma\in\Delta:g\sigma=\sigma\}$ ,
- $f_i(\Delta) = \#\{i\text{-dimensional simplices in }\Delta\}.$

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**Define**  $\Phi = [\phi_i(g_j)]_{0 \le i \le N, \ 0 \le j \le c}$  for class representatives  $g_0, g_1, \dots, g_c$ .

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Corollary (M.)  $\Phi = L \times F$  for

$$L = \big[ (-1)^{i-j} \binom{N-j}{i-j} \big]_{0 \leq i,j \leq N} \qquad F = \big[ f_{i-1} (\Delta \cap X_j) \big]_{0 \leq i \leq N, \ 0 \leq j \leq c}.$$

	(1)(2)(3)(4)	(12)(3)(4)	(12)(34)	(123)(4)	(1234)
$\phi^0$	1	1	1	1	1
$\phi^1$	11	3	-1	-1	-3
$\phi^2$	11	-3	-1	-1	3
$\phi^3$	1	-1	1	1	-1

 $f_{-1}$ 

	(1)(2)(3)(4)	(12)(3)(4)	(12)(34)	(123)(4)	(1234)
$\phi^0$	1	1	1	1	1
$\phi^1$	11	3	-1	-1	-3
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$f_{-1}$	
$f_{-1}$ $f_0$ $f_1$ $f_2$	
$f_1$	
$f_2$	

	(1)(2)(3)(4)	(12)(3)(4)	(12)(34)	(123)(4)	(1234)
$\phi^0$	1	1	1	1	1
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A	
1	

	(1)(2)(3)(4)	(12)(3)(4)	(12)(34)	(123)(4)	(1234)
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$\phi^3$	1	-1	1	1	-1

$f_{-1}$	1 14	
$f_0$	14	
$f_{-1} \ f_0 \ f_1 \ f_2$		
$f_2$		

	(1)(2)(3)(4)	(12)(3)(4)	(12)(34)	(123)(4)	(1234)
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$egin{array}{c} f_{-1} \ f_0 \ f_1 \end{array}$	1
$f_0$	14
$f_1$	36

 $f_2$ 

	(1)(2)(3)(4)	(12)(3)(4)	(12)(34)	(123)(4)	(1234)
$\phi^0$	1	1	1	1	1
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$f_{-1}$	1
$f_0$	14
$f_0$ $f_1$ $f_2$	36 24
$f_2$	24

1	<b>ン</b>
	1
	14
	36

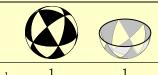
	(1)(2)(3)(4)	(12)(3)(4)	(12)(34)	(123)(4)	(1234)
$\phi^0$	1	1	1	1	1
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$f_0$	1
$f_1$	3
fo	2

	(1)(2)(3)(4)	(12)(3)(4)	(12)(34)	(123)(4)	(1234)
$\phi^0$	1	1	1	1	1
$\phi^1$	11	3	-1	-1	-3
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$f_{-1}$	1	1
$f_{-1}$ $f_0$ $f_1$	14 36	
$f_1$	36	

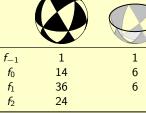
	(1)(2)(3)(4)	(12)(3)(4)	(12)(34)	(123)(4)	(1234)
$\phi^0$	1	1	1	1	1
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$f_{-1}$	1	1
$f_{-1}$ $f_0$ $f_1$ $f_2$	14 36 24	1 6
$f_1$	36	
$f_2$	24	

	(1)(2)(3)(4)	(12)(3)(4)	(12)(34)	(123)(4)	(1234)
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$\phi^2$	11	-3	-1	-1	3
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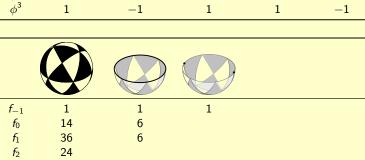
$f_{-1}$	1	1
$f_{-1}$ $f_0$ $f_1$ $f_2$	14	1 6 6
$f_1$	14 36 24	6
$f_2$	24	

	(1)(2)(3)(4)	(12)(3)(4)	(12)(34)	(123)(4)	(1234)
$\phi^0$	1	1	1	1	1
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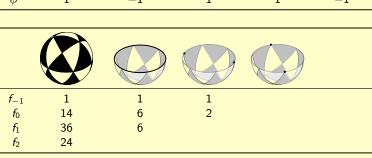
	(1)(2)(3)(4)	(12)(3)(4)	(12)(34)	(123)(4)	(1234)
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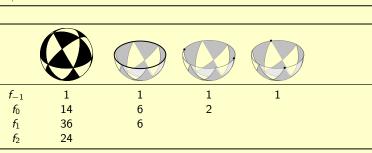
	(1)(2)(3)(4)	(12)(3)(4)	(12)(34)	(123)(4)	(1234)
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$f_{-1}$	1	1	1
$f_0$	14	6	2
$f_{-1}$ $f_0$ $f_1$ $f_2$	14 36 24	6	
$f_2$	24		

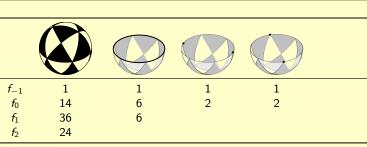
	(1)(2)(3)(4)	(12)(3)(4)	(12)(34)	(123)(4)	(1234)
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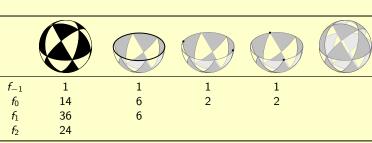
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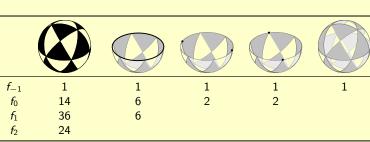
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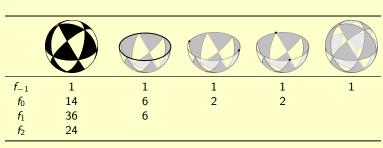
	(1)(2)(3)(4)	(12)(3)(4)	(12)(34)	(123)(4)	(1234)
$\phi^0$	1	1	1	1	1
$\phi^1$	11	3	-1	-1	-3
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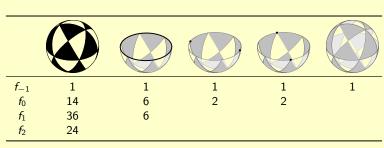


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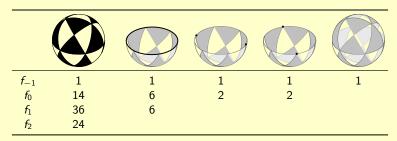
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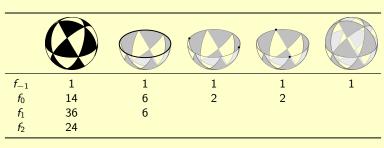
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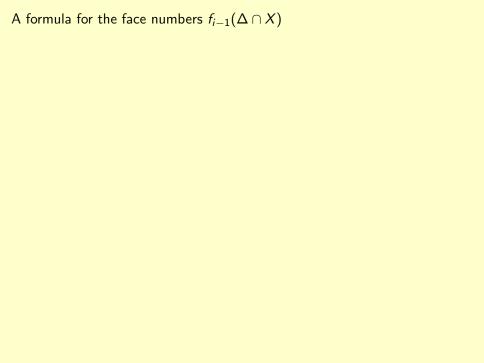


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**Theorem (M.)** If r > 1, then the characters of  $Z_r \wr S_n$  that depend only on length are the **N**-linear combinations of Foulkes characters.

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$$\theta_{\mathfrak{a}} = \tilde{\mathfrak{a}}_{0}\phi_{0} + \tilde{\mathfrak{a}}_{1}\phi_{1} + \ldots + \tilde{\mathfrak{a}}_{n-1}\phi_{n-1}, \quad \mathfrak{a} \in \textbf{N}^{n},$$

and moreover,

$$\theta_{\mathfrak{a}} = \theta_{\mathfrak{b}} \quad \text{if and only if} \quad \mathfrak{a} = \mathfrak{b}.$$

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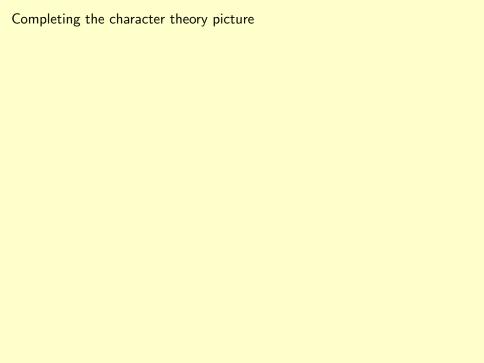
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Theorem (M.) The smallest positive integer that clears all denominators is

$$\frac{\mathrm{lcm}(1,2,\ldots,n)}{n}=\frac{e^{f(n)}}{n},$$

where f is the second Chebyschev function.



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Third solution follows from work of Delsarte in 1976 in a context void of characters and groups, and given 4 years before the  $\phi_i$ 's were introduced by Foulkes in 1980.



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- New short proof of a result of Zagier which generalizes one of Harer and Zagier on the enumeration of certain genus g surfaces.

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**Theorem (M.)** Let  $\phi_0, \phi_1, \dots, \phi_k$  be the Foulkes characters of the hyperoctahedral group of rank k. Then

$$M_B(i,j) = [\phi_i, b^{\ell}\phi_j] \times b^{-k}.$$

#### A curious classification

**Theorem (M.)** Let G be an finite irreducible Coxeter or Shephard group. Then the following are equivalent.

- 1. The characters  $\phi_i(g)$  depend only on the dimension of the fixed space of g.
- 2. The characters  $\phi_0, \phi_1, \dots, \phi_N$  form a **Q** basis for the space of rational class functions  $\chi$  that depend only on the dimension of the fixed space.
- 3. The reduced Foulkes character table  $\Phi$  is square and  $\det \Phi = d_1^N d_2^{N-1} \cdots d_N^1$ .
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- 9. The coexponent sequence  $n_1, n_2, \ldots, n_N$  is arithmetic.
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# Walls in Milnor fiber complexes: $\Delta^r$





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• New equivalent condition in the curious classification.





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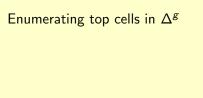
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**Definition (M.)**  $\Delta^r$  is a **Milnor wall** if some type of (n-2)-dimensional faces in  $\Delta^r$  generate a MFC of dimension n-2.

**Theorem (M.)** Each wall of a MFC is a Milnor wall if and only if the diagram contains no subdiagram of type  $D_4$ ,  $F_4$ ,  $H_4$ .

- New equivalent condition in the curious classification.
- Both theorems imply Abramenko's result.



Easy case:  $g = id_G$ .

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So  $f_{N-1}(\Delta^{\mathrm{id}_G})=d_1d_2\dots d_N.$ 

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**Theorem (M.)** If G is irreducible then the following are equivalent:

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So 
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**Theorem (M.)** If G is irreducible then the following are equivalent:

$$\mathrm{(i)} \ \ \mathit{f}_{p-1}(\Delta^{\mathit{g}}) = \mathit{d}_{1}\mathit{d}_{2}\ldots \mathit{d}_{\dim V^{\mathit{g}}} \ \text{for each} \ \mathit{g} \in \mathit{G}.$$

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So 
$$f_{N-1}(\Delta^{\mathrm{id}_G}) = d_1 d_2 \dots d_N$$
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#### **Theorem (M.)** If G is irreducible then the following are equivalent:

- (i)  $f_{p-1}(\Delta^g) = d_1 d_2 \dots d_{\dim V^g}$  for each  $g \in G$ .
- (ii) The sequence  $d_1, d_2, \ldots, d_N$  is arithmetic.